

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

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DRAFTED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN
APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN
S/PRS - MR. KING (INFO)
H - MISS FOLGER (INFO)
NEA - MR. WALKER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
USINT DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO

UNCLAS STATE 126289

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING IS PARTIAL
EXCERPT FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING JUNE 13,
1974:

QUOTE: Q. I HAVE ONE OTHER QUESTION IF I MAY. THIS HAS
TO DO WITH A REPORT YESTERDAY OF ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE
JOSEPH J. SISCO TESTIFYING. HE SAID THAT THE ASSURANCE OF
U.S. POLITICAL SUPPORT GIVEN TO ISRAEL TO COUNTERACT
TERRORISM DID NOT CONSTITUTE WHAT IS QUOTED HERE AS "CARTE
BLANCE FOR INDISCRIMINATE RETALIATION." I WAS WONDERING IF
THE STATE DEPARTMENT COULD DEFINE WHAT THEY MEAN BY
"DISCRIMINATE RETALIATION."

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A. NO, I CAN'T. AND I MIGHT NOTE THAT THAT'S NOT OUR PHRASE, THAT'S YOURS.

Q. I'M SIMPLY QUOTING YOUR SPOKESMAN, MR. SISCO, OF INDISCRIMINATE RETALIATION, SIR. I'M JUST WONDERING COULD YOU TELL ME WHAT IS MEANT BY DISCRIMINATE RETALIATION?

A. I SAID THAT IS YOUR TERM, NOT OURS.

Q. WELL, IF HE HAS SAID THAT IT'S NOT INDISCRIMINATE, THAT THEY ARE NOT GIVING CARTE BLANCHE FOR INDISCRIMINATE RETALIATION, WHAT KIND OF RETALIATION ARE THEY GIVING CARTE BLANCHE FOR, OR WHAT IS MEANT? COULD YOU GIVE US SOME DEFINITION. THIS IS SISCO. HE'S THE ACTING SECRETARY. AND THIS IS A VERY PUZZLING THING. AND I'M SURE I'M NOT ALONG IN WONDERING WHAT THEY MEAN BY THIS TERMINOLOGY.

A. WELL, IT SEEMS TO ME MR. SISCO SAID EVERYTHING THAT CAN BE SAID ABOUT THIS AT THE PRESENT TIME. THE SECRETARY HAS ADDRESSED HIMSELF TO THIS IN THE PAST, AS WE HAVE FROM THIS PODIUM HERE. I WON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO ADD TO IT. END QUOTE. SISCO

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